

THREE BURNED TO DEATH.

Fire at Wheeling Reaps a Fearful Harvest—Escaping Gas Causes Explosion.

Wheeling, W. Va., August 11.—Escaping gas in the building in South Hoff street, occupied by Mrs. J. S. Gavin, as a millinery store and residence, caused a fire early today, which resulted in the death of three persons and the possible fatal injury of one other, while six more were compelled to jump from the third-story windows to escape the flames.

The dead:

Clara Gavin, 27 years old; Mamie Gavin, 29 years old; Margaret Gavin, 21 years old.

The injured: Mrs. J. S. Gavin, bruised and back injured.

The dead girls were daughters of Mrs. Gavin and were suffocated as they slept on the third floor. Two servant girls and four sons of Mrs. Gavin jumped from the third story windows and escaped with minor injuries.

The two upper floors of the building were ablaze when the fire was discovered, and all means of escape for those asleep were cut off before they were awakened.

The building was a three-story brick structure, the first floor being used as a dry goods store and the second and third floors being occupied as a dwelling house by Mrs. Gavin, who is a widow, her sons who conduct the store, her three daughters, and the servants. It is supposed that on the second floor there was an escape of gas from an unattended leak, and that this gas suffocated the three daughters before the explosion followed, which set the building on fire.

About 3:30 o'clock neighbors discovered that the Gavin building was on fire. An alarm was sent in, but when the department arrived the roof was falling in and was carrying with it everything to the first floor. The mother jumped from a second story window and sustained internal injuries.

When the roof fell, taking with it the third floor and its contents, it also carried to the first floor the bodies of the three young women. The fire department, aided by volunteers, made every effort possible to reach the bodies, but were driven back time after time by the heat and the fierceness of the flames.

When finally removed from the smoldering ruins after several hours' work, the bodies of the three victims were found to be burned almost beyond identification. Mrs. Gavin was not told of the death of her daughters for some time, because of her own serious condition. She was prostrated when finally told of their fate. Miss Clara Gavin was engaged to be married to a Wheeling man in the near future. The escape of Mrs. Gavin's four sons, John, Timothy, Charles and Thomas, was thrilling. They made their way through the blinding smoke to a front window, dropped to an awning below, and reached the ground unharmed. A servant girl and a girl friend spending the night with her, escaped in the same manner.

Mrs. Gavin, after making an unsuccessful effort to rescue her daughters, found her way to a side window and jumped to a roof twenty feet below, alighting on her feet, with slight bruises and a sprained back. She was taken from the roof on a ladder, but her rescuer stumbled and both fell.

The property loss is about \$10,000, partially covered by insurance.

TILLMAN ON TAFT.

Senator Tillman Scores Republican Nominee in Interview in Paris.

Paris, Aug. 8.—Senator Tillman, of South Carolina, who is paying his first visit to Paris this week, says that Bryan not only ought to win but will win. Looked at from Europe, what has most impressed Benjamin Tillman in the home political situation is the spectacle of Mr. Taft going obediently to Oyster Bay for President Roosevelt to revise and approve his speech of acceptance of the republican nomination. No candidate has ever before, he says, made his first official appearance before the people in that attitude. It is a shock to Americans over here and must cost Mr. Taft heavily at the election.

Senator Tillman adds that Mr. Taft, like most fat men, is personally good natured, but as a candidate, he has no separate personality, whereas everybody knows where Bryan stands.

Senator Tillman, who followed Bryan's itinerary on his lecture tour, found that Bryan had won popular

ity everywhere.

Ex-Gov. David R. Francis, who is also in Paris, thinks that Bryan's chances are rosy, chiefly on the ground that he is convinced the mass of the public desire a reduction in the tariff. He believes that American industries are perfectly prepared to hold their own against European competition on equal terms.

IN A TIGHT PLACE.

Conduct in an Emergency, of a Man Who Thought Himself a Coward.

"All you've got to do to make Jeff Davis jump into the Arkansas river is to point a corn-cob pipe at him." Recently some men on a train were fanning over this remark, made a long ago by a personal and political enemy of the senator from Mississippi. The travellers agreed that they hated to have anybody say anything like that about them.

"Well, I don't know how true this remark may be as applied to the Davis person," observed a Texan in the group, "but it is my opinion that such a remark could be truthfully applied to very few men. Most men are courageous in tight pinches, even the men who imagine deep down in their consciousness that they are instinctively and inherently cowardly."

"Take, for example, the case of Judge Freeman of Texas. Freeman imagined himself to be a coward. He had never—fortunately, he said—been put to a test, but he was dead certain that he would crawl in a tight place and show himself to the world as a coward."

"This was before he ever ran for office in Texas. When he first ran for office in a Texas town a peculiarly vitriolic editor of a paper published in the Texas town began to attack Freeman in a manner that could only mean blood."

"Judge Freeman's friends got around him and told him that he'd have to kill or at any rate wing the editor or get out of Texas."

"Freeman came to me in his trouble."

"I feel like I'm going to show the white feather in this business," he said to me. "You know what I've often told you. I've got a yellow streak. Just now the yellow streak is working this way: I'm more afraid of killing that fellow than I am of getting killed myself. I hate the business and I hate to think that if it comes to a showdown I'll crawl!"

"Two days after that the editor published another vile broadside and then we all knew it would happen."

"The editor left his office for home that afternoon. He had taken a dozen steps before he— I sight of Judge Freeman emerging from the post office, about sixty yards down the street. Somebody standing in a doorway called out to Judge Freeman at the same instant and the judge saw the editor advancing upon him."

"Both men drew and fired at the same instant. But they were poor shots, both of them, and their bullets went wide. They continued to fire as they advanced upon each other."

"There was a sign of weakness in Freeman. On the contrary, he looked perfectly cool. He was naturally a handsome man and his face looked transfigured and fine in that intense moment."

"There were only four cartridges in the editor's gun and he fired all of them without making a hit. When he had fired all four shots he threw his gun on the ground to indicate to his opponent that he was through with firing, and that editor looked to me like a man ready to run."

"Judge Freeman still had two cartridges left in his gun. But when he saw his enemy throw his pistol away, the big heart of the man appeared. He lowered his gun and stood in the middle of the sidewalk, calmly waiting."

"The editor advanced upon him, seemingly for the purpose of thanking the judge for his generosity in not continuing the firing, and of making up. The judge seeing this, followed his enemy's example and threw away his gun, in which the two cartridges remained. So there he stood, entirely unarmed."

"As soon as Freeman cast away his gun, the editor, who had advanced close to him, suddenly whipped out a bowie beneath the collar of his coat and began to slash at Judge Freeman. It was a cur's trick, and that editor never was allowed to hold up his head in Texas again."

"Now, here, if not before, was the spot for Judge Freeman to show his yellow streak, if he had one. The editor was chopping away at him, and Freeman didn't have so much as a pocket knife on him. But the man who foolishly imagined himself to be a coward was not only equal to the

occasion—he rose nobly above it.

"He reached out and grabbed the editor around the waist, and, being a powerful man, he threw the editor to the ground. Then he planted a 'hot upon the forearm of the hand that held the knife and wrenched the big blade from the prostrate editor's hand. Grasping the bowie, the judge bent over his bitter enemy and put the blade to the man's throat."

"Are you through?" he asked the man who was down.

"I am if you are," replied the editor.

"Judge Freeman stood up and threw his bowie over the top of a store."

"All right; get up," he said to the man whose life he could have taken as easily as slitting the throat of a possum.

"The editor got up and slouched away."

"You're the great old coward, I suppose," I said to Judge Freeman an hour or so after the encounter.

"It's really very curious."

"I reckon I am—just as much a coward now as ever I was," he told me.

"How do you make that out?" I asked him.

"Why, this way," he replied. "I wasn't myself when I had the run in with that fellow. I was somebody else. Otherwise I never could have gone through with those proceedings. I hardly remember anything that happened, because, you see, the spirit of the courageous chap went out of me after the thing was all over. I'm a quitter and a runaway all right."

"But I only laughed at him, as he deserved to be laughed at. His case, and a great many other cases that I know about, proves that there is many a timid man walking up and down the world who imagines himself to be a coward merely because of his natural timidity, but who, as a matter of fact, hasn't got a cowardly drop of blood in his body."

Bucklen's Arnica Salve Wins.

Tom Moore, of Rural Route 1, Cochran, Ga., writes: "I had a bad sore come on the instep of my foot and could find nothing that would heal it until I applied Bucklen's Arnica Salve. Less than half of a 25c. box won the day for me by affecting a perfect cure." Sold under guarantee at W. E. Pelham & Son's drug store.

RE-REGISTRATION OF VOTERS.

Notice is hereby given that the supervisors of registration will be at their offices in the court house during the months of July and August to re-enroll voters of this county in accordance with provisions of an act of the general assembly approved the 25th day of February, 1908. The office will be open every day except Sunday from 9 a. m. to 6 p. m. during these two months. The law requires that all voters shall be re-registered.

E. L. Hayes, Chairman.
B. B. Leitzsey,
J. W. Werts,
Supervisors of Registration.

BLUE RIDGE SCHEDULES.

Eastbound.
No. 18, leaves Anderson at 6:30 a. m., for connection at Belton with Southern for Greenville.

No. 12, from Walhalla, leaves Anderson at 10:15 a. m., for connection at Belton with Southern Railway for Columbia and Greenville.

No. 20, leaves Anderson at 2:20 p. m., for connections at Belton with Southern Railway for Greenville.

No. 8, daily except Sunday, from Walhalla arrives Anderson 6:24 p. m., with connections at Seneca with Southern Railway from points south.
No. 10, from Walhalla, leaves Anderson at 4:57 p. m., for connections at Belton with Southern Railway for Greenville and Columbia.

Westbound.
No. 17, arrives at Anderson at 7:50 a. m., from Belton with connections from Greenville.

No. 9, arrives at Anderson at 12:24 p. m., from Belton with connections from Greenville and Columbia. Goes to Walhalla.

No. 19, arrives at Anderson at 3:40 p. m., from Belton with connections from Greenville.

No. 11, arrives at Anderson at 6:29 p. m., from Belton with connections from Greenville and Columbia. Goes to Walhalla.

No. 7, daily except Sunday, leaves Anderson at 9:20 a. m., for Walhalla, with connections at Seneca for local points south.

Nos. 17, 18, 19, and 20 are mixed trains between Anderson and Belton.

Nos. 7 and 8 are local freight trains, carrying passengers, between Anderson and Walhalla and between Walhalla and Anderson.

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Next session (104th) begins September 23d, 1908.

For announcement write to the President, Columbia, S. C.

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Charleston, S. C.

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Entrance examinations will be held at the County Court House on Friday, July 3, at 9 a. m. All candidates for admission can compete in September for vacant Boyce Scholarships which pay \$100 a year. One free tuition scholarship to each county of South Carolina. Board and furnished room in dormitory \$11. Tuition \$40. For catalogue, address HARRISON RANDOLPH, President.

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If you are interested in the purchase of a PIANO or an ORGAN, we want to sell you one. Don't think you must go to some mail order house to buy a low priced piano or organ; not outside of South Carolina to get the best piano or organ. We have a great variety of grades, and all styles, at prices which cannot fail to interest you. We are manufacturers' factory representatives for several of the largest and most famous makers of pianos and organs. We take old instruments in exchange and make most liberal terms of payment to those who wish to buy on time. No house-quality of pianos and organs considered—can undersell us. Twenty-four years of fair dealing in Columbia and throughout South Carolina is our reference and guarantee.

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D. T. Wicker,
Pomaria, S. C., R. F. D. 1.

CHARLESTON & WESTERN CAROLINA RY.

Schedule in effect May 31, 1908.

Lv. Newberry (C & N & L) 12:56 p. m.
Ar. Laurens 2:02 p. m.
Lv. Laurens (C & W C) 2:35 p. m.
Ar. Greenville 4:00 p. m.
Lv. Laurens 2:32 p. m.
Ar. Spartanburg 4:05 p. m.
Lv. Spartanburg (So. Ry.) 5:00 p. m.
Ar. Hendersonville 7:45 p. m.
Ar. Asheville 8:50 p. m.
Lv. Laurens (C & W C) 2:32 p. m.
Ar. Greenwood 3:32 p. m.
Ar. McCormick 4:33 p. m.
Ar. Augusta 6:15 p. m.

Tri-Weekly Parlar Car line between Augusta and Asheville. Trains Nos. 1 and 2, leave Augusta Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, leave Asheville Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Note: The above arrivals and departures, as well as connections with other companies, are given as information, and are not guaranteed.

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We will ever keep in mind three very important points: quality of goods prompt service moderate prices.

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